

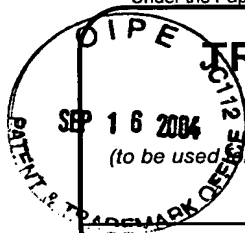
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PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	10/729,309
Filing Date	December 5, 2003
First Named Inventor	Gregory M. DOBBS et al.
Group Art Unit	3753
Examiner Name	Flanigan, Allen J.
Attorney Docket Number	965-009 CON2

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

10

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
- ☐ Fee Attached
- ☒ Amendment / Reply
- ☐ After Final
- ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement

- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Request for Refund
- ☐ CD, Number of CD(s)

- ☐ After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC)
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter

☒ Other Enclosures
(please identify below):

Transmittal Form PTO/SB/21 (1 p.); Copy of Office Action mailed 8/12/2004 (5 pp.); Copy of Response to Restriction Requirement (2 pp.) with facsimile cover sheet (1 p.) and facsimile confirmation (1 p.); Return Mailroom Postcard; and Certificate of First Class Mailing.

- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application
- ☐ Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

Remarks

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0289.

Attached please find a confirmation copy of our Response to Restriction Requirement filed by facsimile on Friday, September 9, 2004.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Wall Marjama & Bilinski LLP	Registration No. 42,897
Signature		
Date	September 13, 2004	

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below: September 13, 2004

Typed or printed name	Sarah A. Lockwood	Date	September 13, 2004
Signature			

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Date: September 9, 2004

To: Examiner Allen J. Flanigan
Art Group Unit 3743

From: Joseph B. Milstein, Ph.D.

Subject: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/729,309 filed December 5, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 965-009 CON2

FAX #: 703-872-9306

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* * * COMMUNICATION RESULT REPORT (SEP. 9. 2004 2:21PM) * * *

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/729,309	12/05/2003	Gregory M. Dobbs	965-009 Con2	2175

20874 7590 08/12/2004

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EXAMINER

FLANIGAN, ALLEN J

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

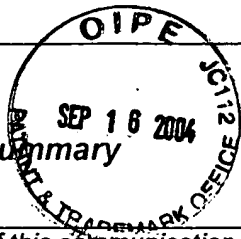
3753

DATE MAILED: 08/12/2004

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary



Application No.

10/729,309

Applicant(s)

DOBBS ET AL.

Examiner

Allen J. Flanigan

Art Unit

3753

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

Election/Restrictions

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: There are 5 species of exchanger configuration: The species of Fig. 3, Fig. 4, Fig. 6, Figs. 7-10, Figs. 14-17, and Figs. 22-24. Further, there are 6 species of membrane sheet configurations: The species of Fig. 11, Fig. 13, Fig. 18, Fig. 19, Fig. 20, and Fig. 21. Finally, there are four species of membrane composition: Sulfonated polymer, perfluorinated, hydrocarbon, and carboxylated.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species of heat exchanger configuration, a single disclosed species of membrane sheet configuration, and a single disclosed species of membrane composition for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1 and 23 are fully generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Scherbel can be reached on (703) 308-1272. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Allen J. Flanigan
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3753

AJF